

1. A field located technician or engineer support computer, comprising:

- (a) means, operable by a field located technician or engineer for recording data, referred to as system data and equipment data;
- (b) means for acquiring system and equipment operational data from temporary field installed sensors and recording said system data;
- (c) means for transmitting raw data from the field location to a central computer system for processing;
- (d) means for receiving processed and analyzed data at the field location from the central computer.;
- (e) means for displaying a series of prompts to the field located technician or engineer, to prompt the technician/engineer to supply additional data as required by the central computer for completion of the diagnosis/analysis;
- (f) means for displaying the results of the central computer's diagnosis/analysis; and
- (g) means for printing out the results of the central computer's diagnosis/analysis.

2. The field located technician/engineer support computer of claim 1 wherein at least part of said field support computer is a field located data input, storage and retrieval computer.



8. The field located technician/engineer support computer of claim 1, wherein said external data store contains parts cost and availability specific to the equipment being analyzed and diagnosed.

9. The field located technician/engineer support computer of claim 1 wherein the central computer establishes a customer data sheet for historical recording of analysis and diagnosis.

10. The field located technician/engineer support computer of claim 1 wherein the central computer establishes a customer data sheet for invoicing and billing purposes.

11. A field located technician or engineer support computer, comprising:

- (a) means, operable by a field located technician or engineer for recording data, referred to as system data and equipment data;
- (b) means for acquiring system and equipment operational data from temporary field installed sensors and recording said system data;
- (c) means for transmitting raw data from the field location to a central computer system for processing;

(d) means for receiving processed and analyzed data at the field location from the central computer;

(e) means for displaying a series of prompts to the field located technician or engineer, to prompt the technician/engineer to supply additional data as required by the central computer for completion of the diagnosis/analysis;

(f) means for displaying the results of the central computer's diagnosis/analysis; and

(g) means for printing out the results of the central computer's diagnosis/analysis.

12. The field located technician/engineer support computer of claim 11 wherein at least part of said field support computer is a field located data input, storage and retrieval computer.

13. The field located technician/engineer support computer of claim 11 wherein at least part of said field support computer is a field located phone line capable of transmitting and receiving computer generated data.

14. The field located technician/engineer support computer of claim 11 wherein at least part of said field support computer is a central computer system capable of interpreting and analyzing raw data and providing analysis and

diagnosis based upon the raw data.

15. The field located technician/engineer support computer of claim 11 wherein at least part of said field support computer is a centrally located phone line communication device capable of transmitting and receiving computer generated data.

16. The field located technician/engineer support computer of claim 11 further comprising means for accessing an external data store.

17. The field located technician/engineer support computer of claim 11 wherein said external data store contains operational data and specifications specific to the equipment being analyzed/diagnosed.

18. The field located technician/engineer support computer of claim 1, wherein said external data store contains parts cost and availability specific to the equipment being analyzed and diagnosed.

19. The field located technician/engineer support computer of claim 1 wherein the central computer establishes a customer data sheet for historical recording of analysis and diagnosis.

20. The field located technician/engineer support computer of claim 1 wherein the central computer establishes a customer data sheet for invoicing and billing purposes.

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